

In honor of National Disability Awareness Month, the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service's Program Office for EEO and Diversity will sponsor the following workshop:

Title: **"Understanding Reasonable Accommodations"**

Presenter: Ms. Jody Wildy
 Program Manager for the Office of Disability Employment Policy
 United States Department of Labor

When: Tuesday, October 26, 2004
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Where: Room 15836, Building SSMC3
 1315 East-West Highway
 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Federal agencies are required by law to provide reasonable accommodation to qualified employees with disabilities. But what exactly does this mean? Who is a qualified individual with a disability? What happens if the disability is not obvious? Does a manager have to provide an accommodation? Will the employee need to provide medical documentation?

These questions often come up when a manager or employee is faced with addressing this topic. Would you know what to do? If not, you are invited to join us as Ms. Wildy (bio below*) shares her experiences and her expertise on this important topic.

This session is open to any employee wishing to attend. However, due to limited space, you are asked to send in your name, via e-mail, to Evelyn Channer at Evelyn.Channer@noaa.gov by October 22, 2004. You should gain supervisory approval before sending e-mail.

(NOTE: This program is physically accessible to people with disabilities and will be sign language interpreted. Requests for other auxiliary aids should be directed to Natalie Huff on 301- 713-1456.)

**Jody Wildy has worked in the disability field for over twelve years. She started out in this area of expertise in 1992 after a tragic car accident left her a bi-lateral above-the-knee amputee. Since that time, Jody has worked in several areas of the disability arena, her most current position being Program Manager in the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), US Department of Labor. Prior to her working with ODEP, Ms Wildy was the Diversity Manager for the President's Committee on Employment of Persons with Disabilities, which was later infused into the Office of Disability Employment Policy. Jody has also served in the following capacities: Executive Director for the D.C. Center for Independent Living; Director of the DC*

Partnership for Assistive Technology, a NIDRR-based grant; and Disability Program Specialist for the District of Columbia Government. Ms. Wildy holds a Bachelor's Degree from Howard University and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Central Michigan University. In addition, Ms. Wildy is an Adjunct Professor for both the University of the District of Columbia and Montgomery College. In her spare time Jody enjoys playing tennis, bicycling and skiing.